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July 18, 2005

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 PO Box 1450  
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**Art Unit 1637****Attn: Mail Stop RCE**

**Re:** U.S. Utility Patent Application  
 Appl. No. 09/599,594; Filed: June 22, 2000  
**For:** Primers and Methods for the Detection and Discrimination of Nucleic Acids  
 Inventors: Nazarenko *et al.*  
 Our Ref: 0942.4980002/RWE/FRC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$910.00 to cover:  
 \$120.00 Extension of Time Fee;  
 \$790.00 Request for Continued Examination Fee;
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a);
3. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal;
4. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116; and
5. One (1) return postcard.

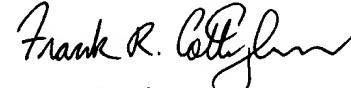
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents  
July 18, 2005  
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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RWE/FRC/lam  
Enclosures

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